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RURAL DISTRICT OF RUGBY



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1955



David J. Jones

RUGBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present the Annual Report on the health of the inhabitants and the sanitary circumstances of the district for the year ended 31st December, 1955.

During the year 1955 there were no startling changes in the vital statistics. The Registrar General's estimate of the population showed a decrease of 450. This may seem surprising, but it is possibly due to the fact that many of the temporarily accommodated natives of Coventry were rehoused in the City, and also that during the year some of the larger temporary caravan sites were cleared, and the owners/occupiers went to other areas outside the boundary of the Rural District.

The Birth Rate increased from 17.45 to 17.52 (adjusted 18.14 to 18.22). The Death Rate also showed an increase from 8.42 to 9.87 (adjusted 9.60 increased to 11.25). In studying the table of the causes of death it will be noted that two-fifths of all deaths were circulatory disease and associated conditions, and approximately one-ninth from Cancer in all its forms. The deaths from Cancer were, however, ten less than in 1954 (drop from 34 to 24).

One feature which appears to increase is the figure for road accident deaths. In 1954 it was 3, in 1955 it was 5. Having a main highway running through the district from East to West, and also bounding the northern area, one might be led to say that these are inevitable with the tremendous volume of traffic using these roads. Despite all the work of road safety organisations, the toll of road deaths does not diminish.

Piped water supply to the North Western part of the district was completed during the year and the villages of Burton Hastings and Wolvey now have a safe water to use. Almost the whole of the rural area has now a piped water supply, which in an area of its size is no mean achievement. Continuous sampling is maintained over all public supplies, and the results during the year were all satisfactory.

The problem of sewage disposal in parts of the rural area is increasing rapidly—with the addition of so many new houses, many not on a mains sewage system. But in some of the older villages, such as Princethorpe, Withybrook and Willoughby, the water courses running through these villages are causing no little concern, and it is inevitable that village schemes will have to be constructed in the not too distant future, to prevent nuisance and danger to health.

Housing continues to be a major problem to the Council. The number of applications does not seem to diminish in spite of the number of houses built by the Council and private enterprise. It has been most satisfying

to see the changing face of the parish of Binley; instead of the unsightly conglomeration of good, bad and indifferent moveable dwellings, a large part of the area is now covered with permanent housing, and all private building. Needless to say the majority of the caravan sites are now empty, due to the constant vigilance and persistent action of the Council and its Officers. Similar remarks apply to the Long Lawford area where the Council's permanent caravan site has met a long term need. The problem of dealing with temporary moveable unfit dwellings has almost been answered, and it is now necessary to turn attention to the clearance of permanent structures which are unfit for human habitation. Opinions will continue to differ as to the unfitness of individual houses, but if one bears in mind the ever increasing standards of housing in the country as a whole, and in this rural district, there can be no denial of the fact that there are many hundreds of houses well below the modern standard, and as such cannot be brought to this modern standard at a reasonable cost. The slum clearance programme has been started, but the speed with which it is carried on must, to a large extent, be governed by the houses built to replace those demolished.

There was a minor epidemic of measles during the year, mainly in the months of March to June, and affecting the villages of Long Lawford, Church Lawford, Clifton, Wolvey and Leamington Hastings. The disease was mild in character, with few complications.

One case of Paralytic Poliomyelitis occurred in a young child, the paralysis affecting one leg. At the time of writing this report the child is still having remedial treatment and showing but gradual progress.

It is disappointing to see a fall in the numbers of children immunised against Diphtheria. One hopes that this is but a temporary lapse.

Tuberculosis figures showed a decrease on the previous year, a fall from 183 to 160 on the register.

The Sections C, D and E on housing and environmental factors affecting the health and well being of the residents of the district, contains much interesting factual information, contributed by Mr. Nutting, to whom I convey my special thanks.

And to the Chairman and all members of the Health Committee my thanks for their continued interest in all health matters and their constant support during 1955.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

DAVID J. JONES,

Medical Officer of Health.

ALBERT HOUSE,
ALBERT STREET,
RUGBY.

August, 1956.

RUGBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council: Mr. N. Ashman, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. H. Walker.

Clerk of the Council: Mr. H. A. Wilde.

Members of the Public Health Committee:

Mr. F. A. Ward (Chairman); Mrs. A. Tew (Vice-Chairman); Mrs. E. G. Y. Fairholme, J.P.; Mrs. L. Ward; Mrs. M. Cunningham; Mrs. V. M. Jepson; Messrs. N. Ashman, J.P.; L. N. Anderton, C.C.; Messrs. W. H. Champion; G. W. Clark; C. C. H. Coape-Arnold; J. Cummins; T. F. Duffin; J. M. Graham; R. Goode; W. H. Harrison; P. L. Handley; O. J. Hidderley; A. Hawke; S. H. Howard; L. H. Knowles; D. H. Jones; F. W. C. Philtrip; A. R. Pemberton; F. Roddis; C. W. Reay; W. F. Sutton; R. F. W. Rucker; R. Thom; H. W. Tyler; J. H. Walker; F. Whitby; and E. W. Webb.

Mr. H. C. Fleming, a member of the Public Health Committee, retired from office during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

David J. Jones, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

also holds appointments of:

Medical Officer of Health, Rugby Municipal Borough. Area Medical Officer, Warwickshire County Council. Divisional School Medical Officer, Warwickshire County Council.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

L. R. Nutting, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

E. V. Beeby, Cert. S.I.B., M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

Clerk:

Mrs. M. F. Arthurs.

House Letting Assistant:

N. Dixon.

Rodent Operative:

A. H. Walton.

Engineer and Surveyor:

D. G. McVinnie, M.I.Mun.E., A.M.T.P.I.

Deputy Engineer and Surveyor:

F. M. Cannings, A.M.I., Mun.E.

Public Analysts:

Messrs. Bostock Hill and Rigby, Birmingham.
Public Health Laboratory Service, Coventry.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

GENERAL STATISTICS—1955.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80,631
Population (estimated Mid. 1955)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,170
Rateable value (1st April, 1955)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£119,895
Product of a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£475

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Birth Rate</i> per 1,000 of the estimated population
Legitimate	166	189	355	
Illegitimate	9	7	16	
	175	196	371	17.52

Adjusted Birth Rate

18.22

Still Births

				Rate per 1,000 estimated population.
Legitimate	6	4	10	0.48
Illegitimate	—	—	—	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.
	6	4	10	26.25

Deaths (all causes)

				<i>Death Rate</i> per 1,000 of the estimated population
	116	93	209	9.87

Adjusted Death Rate

11.25

Deaths from Puerperal Causes — Nil

Infant Mortality

				Rate per 1,000 Live Births.
Legitimate	5	6	11	29.65
Illegitimate	—	1	1	2.70
	5	7	12	32.35

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)

24

Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea

1

Measles

Nil

Whooping Cough

Nil

Area comparability factors for births and deaths have been provided by the Registrar General. These are applied to the crude factors and make allowance for the different age and sex distribution in each area and enable more accurate comparisons to be made.

Population

The Registrar General’s mid-year estimate of 21,170, showed a decrease in population of 440 compared with the previous year. The estimate includes members of the Armed Forces stationed in the district. There was a natural increase (excess of births over deaths) of 162.

Births

There were 371 live births during the year, six less than in 1954. The crude birth rate was 17.52 per thousand population and after applying the comparability factor of 1.04 the adjusted rate was 18.22.

The rates for the years 1951–55 are given below:—

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Rugby R.D.	16.08	17.02	16.13	18.14	18.22
Warwickshire	15.84	15.56	16.3	15.79	

Still Births

Ten still births were recorded, an increase of four over the figure for 1954. The still birth rate per 1,000 total births was 26.25.

Comparative rates for the past five years are as follows:—

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Rugby R.D.	28.21	17.14	34.78	15.92	26.25
Warwickshire	23.44	18.16	19.77	22.28	

Illegitimate Births

The number of illegitimate births was sixteen, the same as in the previous year. None of these were still births.

Deaths

The number of deaths assigned to the district was 209, twenty-seven more than in 1954. The crude rate was 9.87 per thousand population and the adjusted rate, after applying the comparability factor, was 11.25.

The death rates for the years 1951–55 are given below:—

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Rugby R.D. (No. of deaths)	11.35 (211)	9.08 (173)	8.68 (168)	9.60 (182)	11.25 (209)
Warwickshire	11.55	10.35	10.67	10.51	

The registered causes of death are given in the following table :—

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	4	1	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	5	13
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	1	—	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	14	18	32
18. Coronary disease, angina	16	14	30
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	5	6
20. Other heart disease	22	19	41
21. Other circulatory disease	7	3	10
22. Influenza	3	1	4
23. Pneumonia	7	2	9
24. Bronchitis	9	—	9
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	3	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	2	—	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	6	13	19
33. Motor vehicle accidents	5	—	5
34. All other accidents	3	3	6
35. Suicide	2	—	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
Totals ...	116	93	209

Maternal Deaths

There were again no maternal deaths during the year.

Infant Mortality

Twelve infants (five male and seven female) died under the age of one year. One female was illegitimate. The infant death rate was 32.35 per 1,000 live births compared with 26.53 in 1954.

The infant death rates during the past five years have been as follows:—

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Rugby R.D.	25.08	26.16	18.02	26.53	32.35
Warwickshire	28.42	27.88	24.35	23.25	

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

Cause of Death	Age in weeks					Total
	1	2	3	4	5-52	
1. Congenital Malformations	—	—	—	—	2	2
2. Diseases of early infancy:						
(a) Intracranial and spinal injury at birth	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Other birth injury	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis	1	—	—	—	—	1
(d) Immaturity	4	—	—	—	—	4
(e) Other	1	—	—	—	—	1
3. Gastro-Enteritis	—	—	—	—	1	1
4. Acute Bronchitis	—	1	—	—	—	1
5. Other Causes	—	—	—	—	2	2
Totals	6	1	—	—	5	12

Neo-Natal Deaths

Seven of the twelve infants referred to above died within 28 days of birth giving a death rate of 18.88 per thousand live births, compared with 13.26 in 1954.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities

Once again the facilities offered by the Public Health Laboratory were fully utilised throughout the year for the examination of milk, water and food samples and specimens taken in connection with cases of infectious disease.

Local Health Authority Services

The services provided by the Warwickshire County Council under the National Health Service Act are, with exception of ambulance and mental health, administered locally on a day to day basis. The Rural District with the Borough of Rugby forms the Eastern Area of the County for this purpose. All the services functioned satisfactorily during the year.

Child Welfare Centres, Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics and the School Health Services are staffed by medical officers and nurses employed by the County Council, and at the Welfare Centres assistance is given by voluntary workers.

The following Welfare Centres were held during the year:—

<i>Centre</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>When held</i>
Binley	Village Hall	2nd and 4th Wednesday in each month
Brinklow	Village Hall	1st and 3rd Wednesday in each month
Clifton-on-Dunsmore	Townsend Memorial Hall	2nd Thursday in each month
Dunchurch	Women's Institute Hall	2nd and 4th Thursday in each month
Long Lawford	Church Hall	1st and 3rd Tuesday in each month
Stretton-on-Dunsmore	Village Hall	1st and 3rd Thursday in each month
Wolston	Village Hall	2nd and 4th Thursday in each month
Wolvey	Village Hall	2nd and 4th Tuesday in each month

At the Brinklow, Dunchurch, Long Lawford, Stretton-on-Dunsmore and Wolvey centres, transport is provided to bring mothers and babies from the surrounding villages.

National Assistance Act, 1948

No action was necessary under this Act during 1955.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

Individual supplies are now possible at Burton Hastings and advantage is being taken of this by some householders. This also applies to Wolvey, but there appears to be a lack of enthusiasm by the householders at Copston Magna. This may be due to the fact that the populace at Copston mainly consists of farmers and farm cottage workers who have a private estate supply to which the farmers are making a financial contribution through their rentals. It may well be, however, that applications for mains supply will be forthcoming in the future.

A scheme for Willey and Wibtoft to be supplied with mains water is under consideration.

The City of Coventry, the Boroughs of Nuneaton and Rugby, and the Urban District Council of Bedworth supply mains water in bulk to this Authority, and samples are taken every month by us at the terminal points for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Coventry.

A total of 124 connections to the water mains were made during the year 1955. Only three small villages are without a mains supply of water, and even one of these three has part of its area supplied with mains water.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Population (Estimated)</i>	<i>No. of houses and temporary dwellings</i>	<i>Percentage proportion of houses with mains water in the house</i>	<i>Percentage proportion of houses served by standtaps</i>
Ansty	230	62	92	8
Binley	1380	371	75	—
Birdingbury	260	71	68	4
Bourton-on-Dunsmore	280	85	79	7
Brandon & Bretford	604	153	59	23
Brinklow	1050	306	69	30
Burton Hastings	210	58	Five public standtaps erected until sufficient water available for individual connections.	
Church Lawford	521	123	95	3
Churchover	500	92	89	4
Clifton-on-Dunsmore	1070	327	87	13
Coombe Fields	250	67	—	2
Copston Magna	60	17	Laying of water main completed but no individual connections yet pending availability of sufficient supply of water.	
Dunchurch	2115	535	79	17
Easehall	207	47	63	24
Frankton	320	83	89	4
Grandborough	355	101	55	34
Harborough Magna	420	114	76	14
Leamington Hastings	380	127	89	2
Long Lawford	2155	389	75	20
Marton	370	126	86	7
Monks Kirby	495	119	40	11
Newnham Regis	100	34	27	—
Newton & Biggin	300	83	64	6
Pailton	523	142	66	7
Princethorpe	470	109	53	8
Ryton-on-Dunsmore	1044	260	88	10
Shilton	786	240	95	4
Stretton-on-Dunsmore	1065	316	68	8
Stretton-under-Fosse	250	68	77	4
Thurlaston	287	89	56	15
Willoughby	317	77	85	7
Withybrook	300	81	43	—
Wolfhampcote	223	65	52	15
Wolston	1330	368	75	10
Wolvey	2200*	263	Laying of water main completed but no individual connections yet pending availability of sufficient supply of water.	
	* <i>Inc. H.M.F.</i>			

In the remaining parishes there is no mains water supply.

The following table gives details of the sewage disposal schemes already in existence.

Parish	Type of existing sewage disposal	Schemes approved in principle by Ministry of Health	
		Cost	Stage of proposals
Ansty	Combined highway and foul drains discharging into ditches, several cesspools.	£26,450	Scheme in preparation to sewer Ryton, Wolston and Brandon.
Binley	Practically the whole of the parish now sewered.		
Birdingbury	Drains into inadequate tanks and overflows into ditches.		
Bourton-on-Dunsmore	Drains into inadequate tanks and overflows into ditches.		
Brandon and Bretford	Drains into inadequate tanks and overflows into ditches.		
Brinklow	Part sewered into inadequate tanks and overflows into ditches.		
Burton Hastings	Combined highway and foul drains into ditches.		
Church Lawford	Combined highway and foul drains into inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Churchover	Combined highway and foul drains into ditches.		Scheme completed.
Clifton-on-Dunsmore	Highway and foul drains now separated.		
Coombe Fields	Cesspools and ditches.		
Copston Magna	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Cosford	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Dunchurch	Part to tanks and double filtration filters ; other part to inadequate tank and land treatment. Some parts to cesspools.		
Easenhall	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Frankton	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Grandborough	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Harborough Magna	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Leamington Hastings	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		Work on new scheme in progress.
Little Lawford	Cesspools and ditches.		
Long Lawford	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Marton	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches and river.		
Monks Kirby	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Newnham Regis	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Newton and Biggin	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Pailton	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Princethorpe	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		Scheme in preparation to sewer Ryton, Wolston and Brandon.
Ryton-on-Dunsmore	Combined highway and foul drains to tank, and land treatment.		
Shilton	Part to tanks and filters and part to ditches.		
Stretton Baskerville	Cesspools and ditches.		
Stretton-on-Dunsmore	Combined highway and foul drains to settlement tanks.		
Stretton-under-Fosse	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Thurlaston	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Wibtoft	Combined highway and foul drains to tanks and land treatment.		
Willey	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Willoughby	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		Scheme in preparation to sewer Ryton, Wolston and Brandon,
Withybrook	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Wolston	Combined highway and foul drains to settlement tanks.		
Wolvey	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		

Water Sampling

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Suspicious</i>	<i>Unsafe</i>
Mains Supplies	65	59	6	—
Private Supplies	18	6	9	3
Swimming Pool	10	10	—	—
Watercourses	1	—	—	1
Totals:	94	75	15	4

The six samples from mains that were not quite up to standard came from a short length of water main at Burton Hastings. As a result of this arrangements were made for this length of main to be flushed through regularly, since when no further trouble has been experienced.

Drainage and Sewerage

During 1955 the Sanitary Inspectors made 1060 visits regarding drainage matters mainly in regard to conversions from pails and privies to water closets, or the relaying of unsatisfactory drainage.

As regards sewerage, reference to the detailed list on a previous page, emphasises the need for the provision and extension of this essential service in various parts of the district. A number of factors operate adversely, and diminish the speed with which one would like to see these schemes come to fruition. The desirability and necessity of them cannot too often be emphasised, and the Council continue to give their attention to this service and proceed when and wherever possible.

Public Cleansing

It is again pleasing to report that few complaints were received during the past year. This is an essential service to the public, and one sometimes wonders how many of the public appreciate the unattractiveness of the work involved.

Rivers and Streams

58 inspections of watercourses were made during 1955. Action was necessary in some cases and 16 informal notices were served.

Shops and Offices (Shop Act, 1950)

As can be expected in a rural district the shops in the area are mainly, but not wholly, family concerns, the family living on the premises. A total of 72 visits were made during the year. On the whole the shops are maintained reasonably satisfactorily.

In compliance with the request of the County Council delegation under Section 73(2) and Section 38(3)(4)(5) was accepted. These provisions relate to lighting, washing facilities and meals, and the following inspections were made:—

No. of Shops inspected	....	....	....	....	24
Contraventions found in respect of Section 38 :—					
<i>Subsection 3 (Lighting)</i>	....	....	....	....	—
<i>Subsection 4 (Washing Facilities)</i>			....	....	—
<i>Subsection 5 (Meals)</i>	....	....	....	....	—

Camping Sites

The Council has provided a caravan site at Long Lawford, and it has therefore been possible to close some of the unsatisfactory encampments in the area by transferring some of the caravans to the Council's site.

There are also minimum standards for caravan sites and individual caravans. Copies of these were circulated to all affected thereby. Some have been dealt with on the basis of these minimum conditions, but more remain to be attended to. Condemnation of some caravans is carried out and the occupants re-housed by the Council. Some caravans are reasonably well maintained by the occupiers who keep their outbuildings to a minimum and the surroundings are kept neat and tidy. Others are the reverse, and the whole soon becomes an object of disorderliness. I would repeat what has been stated in previous years—that some occupiers are compelled through no fault of their own to endure these unsatisfactory living conditions.

Smoke Abatement

No necessity for action by the local authority arose during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools

The swimming pool referred to in my report for last year re-opened for this season after renovation by the owners. Ten samples were taken from the pool whilst it was in use and all of them proved to be satisfactory.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

No cases were dealt with under this heading.

Canal Boats

No canal boats were inspected during the year.

Gentle Breeding

During the year complaints of the offensive “ smells ” emanating from maggot breeding were received. Investigations were made, and with the co-operation of the owner of the land the gentle breeding establishment was closed down.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The Council employ one full-time rodent operative in this scattered rural area. Sewers, refuse tips and sewage disposal plants are regularly treated with satisfactory results. All the sewers in the district were tested and received two maintenance treatments in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries whose methods we continue to practise. If treatment is carried out at business premises the Council make a charge and as regards domestic premises advice is given upon any infestation.

Surface Infestations :

No. of complaints received ....	....	....	....	67
No. of visits made ....	....	....	....	726
Quantity of bait used :—				
(a) Bait laid :				
Sausage Rusk ....	....	....	....	130 lbs.
Bread ....	....	....	....	16 lbs.
(b) Poison bait (including Warfarin)				282 lbs.
No. of rat bodies found ....	....	....	....	318

Sewer Infestations :

<i>Situation</i>			<i>Number of Manholes baited</i>	<i>Number of Complete takes</i>	<i>Number of Part takes</i>	<i>No take</i>
Dunchurch	....	....	6	—	—	6
Stretton-on-Dunsmore	....	....	19	1	5	13
Ryton-on-Dunsmore	....	....	18	6	6	6
Wolston	....	....	12	1	3	8
Brandon	....	....	4	—	1	3
Brinklow	....	....	5	—	2	3
Long Lawford	....	....	13	—	4	9

Local Authority Undertakings :

No. of treatments at Refuse Tips	....	....	....	32
No. of visits made	....	....	....	192
No. of rat bodies found	....	....	....	291
No. of sewage disposal outfalls treated	....	....	....	6
No. of visits made	....	....	....	23
No. of rat bodies found	....	....	....	19
No. of survey visits made	....	....	....	19
No. of sewer surveys made	....	....	....	3

Petroleum (Consolidation) Acts, 1928–36

116 inspections were made during the year, and there were five new installations of tanks and pumps.

Inspections and Visits Made

Complaints received during 1955 totalled 200, all of which were investigated, and where justification existed appropriate action was taken. Interviews and inspection visits by the Sanitary Inspectors totalled 3,699.

208 informal notices and 14 statutory notices were served.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING 1955

	<i>Inspections & visits</i>	<i>Notices served</i>		<i>Notices compiled with</i>
		<i>Statutory</i>	<i>Informal</i>	
Accumulations	10	—	2	4
Ashbins	—	—	10	10
Canal Boats	—	—	—	—
Complaints	138	—	18	13
Drainage	1083	—	42	16
Dwelling Houses	963	2	45	39
Factories	38	—	3	—
Interviews and Appointments	3561	—	—	—
Knacker's Yard	9	—	—	—
Moveable Dwellings	867	12	43	41
Offensive Trades	2	—	1	1
Petroleum	116	—	—	—
Rats and Mice	954	—	4	4
Refuse Collection & Disposal	178	—	1	1
San. Accn.: Pails renewed	1	—	3	2
Privies Abolished	3	—	—	—
W.C. Conversions	7	—	1	2
Schools	5	—	—	—
Shops Act, 1950	24	—	—	—
Special and Misc. Visits	71	—	—	—
Stables and Piggeries	20	—	3	3
Swimming Pools	7	—	1	1
Verminous Premises	10	—	—	—
Water Supplies	177	—	10	52
Watercourses	58	—	16	5
Infectious Diseases	63	—	—	—
Houses Disinfected	16	—	—	—
Bakehouses	3	—	—	—
Butcher's Shops & Meat Vans	54	—	—	—
Dairies, Milk Shops & Milk Vans	43	—	2	2
Fishmongers and Poulterers	1	—	—	—
Food Manufacturing Premises	2	—	—	—
Fried Fish Shops	6	—	1	1
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	3	—	1	—
Grocers	12	—	—	—
Ice Cream Premises	5	—	—	—
Licensed Premises	7	—	—	1
Miscellaneous Food Visits	39	—	—	—
Restaurants, Cafes & Canteens	17	—	2	1
Slaughterhouses	85	—	—	—
TOTALS	8658	14	209	199

N.B.—Most Notices contained many separate items.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

The applications for Council Houses continue to steadily increase. It is pleasing to report that private house building is also increasing and during the year a total of 127 of such houses were erected. The Council are however, continuing to erect Council houses not only to replace the unfit ones, but to meet the needs of their area as far as they can. During the year three applications for certificates of disrepair under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 were received, and granted. Also during 1955, nine dwellinghouses were inspected to advise prospective purchasers regarding the possibility of action being taken under the Council's Slum Clearance Programme. At the time of writing this report the Council are advertising for a Second Additional Sanitary Inspector, and when this appointment is made it will be possible to devote more attention to matters of housing, moveable dwellings, and temporary habitations etc.

Permanent Housing

The following figures show the number of new houses occupied during 1955:—

Council Houses Nil

Private Houses

Binley	40	Marton	4
Birdingbury	2	Pailton	1
Bourton	1	Ryton-on-Dunsmore	4
Brandon & Bretford	1	Shilton	2
Brinklow	14	Stretton-on-Dunsmore	17
Clifton-on-Dunsmore	13	Thurlaston	1
Dunchurch	7	Willoughby	2
Grandborough	2	Wolfhampcote	1
Leamington Hastings	2	Wolston	4
Long Lawford	7	Wolvey	2
—127			

Temporary Housing

There are 50 prefabricated bungalows in the Rugby Rural District sited as follows :—

Dunchurch 18, Wolston 12, Brinklow 20.

The number of hutments at the Army Camps on the 31st December, 1955, was as follows :—

Ryton-on-Dunsmore 9, Stretton-on-Dunsmore 3.

During 1955, 5 huts from the above camps were demolished due to their defective condition.

Birdingbury Camp

By the end of 1955 all the conversions had been completed totalling 33.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply and Control

During the year action was taken under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1949 in respect of three herds. Two of these herds were producing milk which was infected with *Brucella Abortus* and the other one was infected with Tuberculosis.

Milk Sampling

A total of 14 milk samples were taken during the year, 8 for bacteriological and 6 for biological examination. The laboratory reports on these samples were as tabled below:—

	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total</i>
Phosphatase and Methylene Blue Tests	5	1	6
Turbidity Test	2	—	2
Chemical Analysis	—	—	—

	<i>Negative</i>	<i>Positive</i> (<i>Tuberculosis</i>)	<i>Positive</i> (<i>B. Abortus</i>)	<i>Total</i>
Biological Examination	6	—	—	6
				—
				14
				—

These samples consisted of Pasteurised, T.T. (Pasteurised), T.T., Sterilised, and Ungraded milks.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

No. of Distributors registered with the authority	.....	.....	24
No. of premises registered with the authority	.....	.....	6

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949

No. of Dealer's Licences (Tuberculin Tested)	.....	.....	7
No. of Supplementary Licences (Tuberculin Tested)	.....	.....	14
No. of Dealer's Licences (Pasteurised)	.....	.....	11
No. of Supplementary Licences (Pasteurised)	.....	.....	14
No. of Dealer's Licences (Sterilised)	.....	.....	4
No. of Supplementary Licences (Sterilised)	.....	.....	5

One Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licence issued by the Warwickshire County Council.

A survey is being carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, with a view to an order being made declaring this part of the county to be "a specified area" under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. If such an order is made it will mean that only designated milks can be sold in this area, although the Act empowers the Minister to give consent in special cases to the sale of milk without the use of a special designation.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947

It was not found possible to take any ice cream samples during the year owing to pressure of other work.

Meat and Food Inspection

The Sanitary Inspectors make periodic visits to meat shops and meat vans in the area and are at times called out by meat retailers. Slaughterhouses are also visited and the visits to shops and slaughterhouses during the year totalled 139.

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:—

	<i>Cattle exclud'g Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed (if known)	80	—	3	323	101	—
Number inspected	80	—	3	323	101	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci. Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	8	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	10	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	2	—	—	—	3	—
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with tuberculosis	2½	—	—	—	3	—
Cysticercosis. Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigera- tion	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Inspections are also made of catering premises in the area.

Unsound Meat and Foods Condemned

During the year the following foodstuffs have been voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption:—

	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>Tins</i>
Tinned Peaches	20	20
Corned Beef	103	17
Luncheon Meat	4	1
Ox Tongues	12	2
Tongue & Ham	42	
Cooked Brisket of Beef	16 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Cooked Ham	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Cod Fillets	224	
10 Bovine Livers	129	
1 Bovine Heart	5	
3 Pigs Heads	32	
1 Pigs Liver	5	

Food Supervision

		<i>Visits</i>
No. of Bakehouses	10	3
No. of Slaughterhouses and Meat Shops	10	139
No. of Roadside Cafes	13	17

Knacker's Yard

There is only one Knacker's Yard in the district which is owner/occupied. Apart from the slaughterhall and flaying room there are other buildings which house a fat extractor, bone crusher and drier, and rooms for the storage of fat and meal. Almost the entire bulk of meat is processed on the premises and any small quantities not treated in this manner are stained in accordance with instructions.

9 visits were made during the year. On each occasion the premises were found to be well maintained and managed.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

A minor epidemic of Measles occurred in the spring and early summer of 1955. A total of 246 cases occurred, the majority in the larger parishes adjacent to the Boroughs of Rugby and Nuneaton.

One case of Poliomyelitis was notified in a young child, who was left with a residual paralysis of one leg.

Immunisation and Vaccination

Immunisation and vaccination procedures continued during the year both at the County Council Infant Clinics and by private arrangements with medical practitioners. It is disappointing to find a decrease in the total number of children protected against Diphtheria, and this decrease must not occur again in future years. It is a long time since there was a case of Diphtheria in this district but the level of protection in the child population must be maintained at a high level. As a very rough check on 1955 figures, one can, by reference see that of the 371 children born in 1954, a number of 264 or less were immunised in 1955. This is not considered nearly high enough to ensure the eventual eradication of the disease throughout the country.

Diphtheria Immunisation

No. of children who completed a full course of immunisation during 1955			No. of children given re-inforcing injections
Under 5	5 — 14	Total	
264	19	283	122

No. of children immunised at any time up to the 31st December, 1955.

Age at 31.12.55 i.e. born in	Under 1 yr. 1955	1—4 years 1951-1954	5—14 years 1941-1950	Total
No. immunised	54	841	2155	3050

Vaccination

No. of persons vaccinated during year						
Age at Vaccination	Under 1 year	1 year	2 — 4 years	5 — 14 years	15 or over	Total
Primary vaccination	121	7	5	2	7	142
Re-vaccination	—	—	—	2	26	28

Whooping Cough Immunisation

No. immunised in 1955

Under 5 years	5—14 years	Total
250	14	264

Tuberculosis

There were nineteen new notifications during the year, seventeen of which were Pulmonary. Of this seventeen a total of thirteen were between 15–45 years of age. It is hoped that the use of Miniature Mass X-ray can soon be extended to the villages—as an example, Wolston, where a large new secondary modern school is now to open. The 14–15 years of age children will, it is hoped, be offered X-ray examinations before they depart to take up work, and the opportunity may then arise to utilise the services of the X-ray equipment and its trained staff for the general community in that area. By the continued extension of facilities for X-ray in the Rural Area, and the enhanced treatment of follow up of cases, the steady decline in this dreaded disease should be maintained.

The Housing Committee have again been most helpful in rehousing cases of Tuberculosis for whom I have made special requests.

Nineteen new cases of tuberculosis, 17 respiratory and 2 non-respiratory, were notified during the year. A further 5 cases were transferred into the district from other authorities, and at the end of the year there were 160 cases on the register, classified as follows:—

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
81	47	14	18	95	65

The age incidence of the new cases and of deaths from tuberculosis during 1955 are given below:—

Age G'ps.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—15	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
—25	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
—35	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
—45	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
—55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total	12	5	1	1	1	—	—	—

**AGE INCIDENCE OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS
DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) 1955.
FINAL FIGURES AFTER CORRECTION**

<i>Disease</i>	0-4	5-14	15-44	45-64	65+	<i>Age Un- known</i>	<i>All Ages</i>
Scarlet Fever	3	5	—	—	—	—	8
Whooping Cough	10	15	—	—	—	—	25
Poliomyelitis :							
Paralytic	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Non-Paralytic	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Measles	107	131	6	—	—	2	246
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	1	—	1	1	—	3
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

**MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS
DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis), 1955.
FINAL FIGURES AFTER CORRECTION**

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sept.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Scarlet fever	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	8
Whooping Cough	—	1	4	—	1	3	1	—	—	3	2	10	25
Poliomyelitis													
paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
non-paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Measles	3	9	92	69	22	41	7	3	—	—	—	—	246
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Totals</i>	5	11	98	71	23	46	8	4	2	8	3	10	289

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN INDIVIDUAL PARISHES, 1955.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Polio-myelitis— paralytic</i>	<i>Polio-myelitis— non-paralytic</i>	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>Dysentery</i>	<i>Erysipelas</i>	<i>Puerperal Pyrexia</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Ansty	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Binley	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Birdingbury	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Bourton-on-Dunsmore	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Brandon & Bretford	1	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	9
Brinklow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Burton Hastings	1	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	5
Church Lawford	—	1	—	—	23	—	—	—	—	24
Churchover	—	3	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	8
Clifton-on-Dunsmore	1	—	—	—	32	1	—	1	—	35
Coombe Fields	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Copston Magna	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cosford	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dunchurch	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	9
Easehall	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Frankton	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8
Grandborough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harborough Magna	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	3
Kings Newnham	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Leamington Hastings	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	10
Little Lawford	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Lawford	3	1	—	—	55	—	—	—	—	59
Marton	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Monks Kirby	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Newton & Biggin	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8
Pailton	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	5
Princethorpe	—	7	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	8
Ryton-on-Dunsmore	1	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	7
Shilton	1	3	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	8
Stretton Baskerville	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stretton-on-Dunsmore	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
Stretton-under-Fosse	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thurlaston	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Wibtoft	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Willey	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Willoughby	—	3	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	7
Withybrook	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wolfhampcote	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	7
Wolston	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Wolvey	—	1	—	—	35	—	—	—	—	36
Total	8	25	1	2	246	3	1	2	1	289

SECTION G.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	28	8	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	55	30	3	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	83	38	3	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	1	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences re- lating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	1	—	1	—

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1955 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Estimated Mid-Year Population	Births		Deaths		Infant deaths		Tuberculosis Deaths	
		No.	Rate adjusted	No.	Rate adjusted	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1926	21,130	367	17.0	228	10.8	22	55	19	0.90
1927	21,290	314	14.7	249	11.7	18	57	21	0.99
1928	21,930	354	17.0	210	10.0	22	62	19	0.87
1929	21,170	354	16.8	257	12.2	16	45	15	0.71
1930	21,170	341	16.1	200	9.5	13	38	11	0.52
1931	21,950	348	15.9	189	8.6	18	52	16	0.73
1932*	18,190	316	16.5	200	10.9	15	48	8	0.44
1933	18,300	275	14.2	188	10.3	14	51	6	0.33
1934	18,210	321	17.6	197	10.8	19	59	9	0.49
1935	18,173	272	15.0	174	9.6	15	55	7	0.39
1936	18,200	322	17.7	203	11.1	17	53	8	0.44
1937	18,310	294	16.0	219	12.0	12	41	8	0.44
1938	15,570	282	17.3	194	12.0	24	85	16	1.03
1939	†15,530	232	15.1	184	11.6	9	39	7	0.45
	‡15,870								
1940	16,520	209	12.6	197	11.9	12	56	9	0.54
1941	17,910	297	16.5	214	12.0	15	48	8	0.45
1942	17,560	302	17.2	179	10.2	13	43	10	0.57
1943	17,090	316	18.5	194	11.4	19	60	10	0.59
1944	17,290	355	20.6	211	12.2	10	28	9	0.52
1945	16,920	303	18.0	189	11.2	10	33	18	1.06
1946	17,150	363	21.2	193	11.2	12	33	13	0.76
1947	17,300	398	23.0	181	10.5	9	23	6	0.35
1948	18,160	331	18.23	174	9.58	15	45.32	11	0.61
1949	§18,220	350	19.21	179	10.31	9	25.71	11	0.60
	††20,630								
1950	20,230	336	17.44	205	11.35	10	29.76	10	0.50
1951	20,830	319	16.08	211	11.35	8	25.08	7	0.34
1952	21,220	344	17.02	173	9.08	9	26.16	1	0.05
1953	21,670	333	16.13	168	8.68	6	18.02	2	0.16
1954	21,610	377	18.14	182	9.60	10	26.53	—	—
1955	21,170	371	18.22	209	11.25	12	32.35	1	0.05

*Extension of Municipal Borough of Rugby.

†Population for calculation of Birth Rate.

‡Population for calculation of Death Rate.

§Civilian population for calculation of Birth and Death rates.

††Home population (includes members of Armed Forces stationed in the district).

The estimated population figures for 1950 and onwards include members of the Armed Forces stationed in the district.

